



2017

AUSTRIAN OFFERING

*Notes On Austria's
Most Recent Harvest*



VINTAGE 2016

CONDITIONS for vintage 2016 in Austria saw intermittent rain and cool temperatures followed by dry and warm weather during harvest. A warmer than usual winter triggered early bud break which put young buds and shoots at risk. A late April frost dramatically reduced yields in Steiermark and parts of Burgenland. In August, dry weather set in and most regions experienced warm temperatures and stable conditions during harvest. Some areas, including the Wachau encountered botrytis late in the growing season, but growers such as Rudi Pichler and Toni Bodenstein made strong selections in the vineyard and worked diligently to separate 'clean' grapes from those affected by botrytis. Compared to the ripe and concentrated 2015 vintage, the 2016s generally show slightly lower levels of alcohol and slightly higher levels of acidity. The **TASTE PROFILE** of the 2016 Grüner Veltliners and Rieslings can be summarized as being balanced with very pure and fresh-tasting flavors. Vienna experienced very favorable conditions during harvest and its signature field blends, known as Wiener Gemischter Satz, were of excellent quality with ripeness and concentration balanced by fresh acidity.



- Family-owned winery located near Lake Neusiedl
- Benchmark producer of Blaufränkisch
- Member of Respekt; Member of Pannobile Association

Blaufränkisch Altenberg 2015

Altenberg produces very complex and structured Blaufränkisch due to the high percentage of Muschelkalk in the soil. The wine is aged in 60% new oak. The first Altenberg was produced in 2000. Only made in top vintages.

Blaufränkisch Ungerberg 2015

Ungerberg is from a 3-hectare site of sandy loam and always shows sumptuous texture and richness. First produced in 1997.

Blaufränkisch Spiegel 2015

Spiegel consists of chalk soils and gives wines of considerable power.

Pannobile 2014

92-94 POINTS — *Falstaff*

100% Blaufränkisch. The intent of Pannobile is to be a high-quality expression of Gols produced from local varieties.



- Red wines are the focus at Heinrich
- Leading producer of the Leithaberg DAC and committed to biodynamic viticulture
- Founding member of Respekt; Member of Pannobile Association

Blaufränkisch Leithaberg 2015

Leithaberg is a hill of limestone-rich soil (Leithakalk) that faces Lake Neusiedl on its northwest side. Gernot's Leithaberg Rot is 100% Blaufränkisch aged in 500L French oak. Very mineral and focused.

Weissburgunder Leithaberg 2015

Leithaberg with its limestone soils tends to give grapes with thicker skins and more phenolics. This favors "positive reduction" and Gernot Heinrich seeks this in his white wines. Varietal and mineral with well-integrated reductive notes. A more powerful wine than the Chardonnay.

Salzberg 2015

The Salzberg "salt hill" contains an impressive diversity of soils — clay and silt to limestone, sand and gravel. 60% Merlot, 30% Blaufränkisch and 10% Zweigelt and aged for 30 months in 500 liter wooden barrels.



LOIMER

- Classic expressions of Kamptal Grüner Veltliner, Riesling, and Pinot Noir
- Wines of purity, finesse, and elegance
- Founding member of Respekt; Member of Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Sekt Extra Brut NV

90 POINTS — *Wine Advocate*

Blend of 42% Grüner Veltliner, 33% Zweigelt, and 25% Pinot Noir. Fruit is sourced from the villages of Gumpoldskirchen, south of Vienna, and Langenlois where the winery is located. A traditional method sparkling wine: elegant, finessed, and mineral. Loimer's 2007 Chardonnay is the Liqueur d'Expedition. Only 20mg sulfur dioxide added at bottling. Minimum 10 months on lees.

Sekt Brut Rosé NV

91 POINTS — *Wine Enthusiast*

Blend of 58% Zweigelt, 35% Pinot Noir, and 7% Chardonnay. Fruit is sourced from the villages of Gumpoldskirchen, south of Vienna, and Langenlois where the winery is located. A traditional method sparkling wine: clear, bright and decidedly pink with a fine and persistent mousse. A wine of great tension, freshness, and finesse.



Grüner Veltliner Loiserberg 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Loiserberg is a high-elevation site reaching up to 420 meters elevation above Langenlois. The vineyard is distinctly cool with eroded schist soils.



Grüner Veltliner Käferberg 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Käferberg "beetle hill" sits near the top of the hill directly

north of Langenlois. Heavy brown soil and loess over primary rock. Fermented spontaneously in large wooden casks.



Grüner Veltliner Spiegel 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Spiegel "mirror" are often hilltop sites in Austria. This Spiegel lies west of Göbelsburg and consists of pure loess soil giving a straightforward Grüner Veltliner. Fermented spontaneously in large wooden casks.



Riesling Heiligenstein 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

One of Austria's most famous vineyards and the finest vineyard in the Kamptal: Heiligenstein, known as Hellenstein "Hell rock" during the Middle Ages, it is a geological anomaly of crystalline rock and is a classic Riesling site. Power, depth and intensity. Vinified in large wooden casks.



Riesling Steinmassl 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Steinmassl is named after an old stone working tool (the vineyard is a former quarry). The soil consists of primary rock mixed with clay and limestone. A powerfully mineral wine. Vinified in large wooden casks.



Riesling Seeberg 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Seeberg is a vineyard with schist soil and schilf (lake grass) growing on top of it, evidence of the "lake on a hill" that was once there. Spontaneous fermentation, 50% in used acacia barrels & 50% in INOX.



Riesling Loiserberg 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Loiserberg is a high-elevation site reaching up to 420 meters elevation above Langenlois. The vineyard is distinctly cool with eroded schist soils.



Weingut Stadt Krems

- Round, pure, appetizing Grüner Veltliners and Rieslings
- 650+ year-old winery given new life by dynamic, young winemaking team
- Pure Kremstal in style; Member of Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

Grüner Veltliner Weinzierlberg 2016

92 POINTS —Falstaff

The “mountain of winemakers” is a very old terraced site behind the city of Krems. The soil is loess over gravel and rock and the vines are quite young (1981-2003). A wine of great depth, and mineral expression.



Grüner Veltliner Wachberg Reserve 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

From this “watch hill” the people of Krems could see their enemies earlier. This terraced erste lage reaches up to 400 meters above Krems and consists of loess soil over bedrock (gneiss). Deep and powerful from 50+ year old vines.



Riesling Grillenparz 2016

Erste Lage – Österreichische Traditionsweingüter

The “Cricket hill” is a near monopole of Stadt Krems, a terraced vineyard of pure primary rock which faces the Danube and is above the small village of Stein. Possibly Kremstal’s most famous Riesling site.



WIENINGER

- Multi-generational family winery in Vienna
- Leader of movement to elevate Viennese Gemischter Satz
- Member of Respekt; Founding Member of WienWein

Wiener Gemischter Satz Bisamberg 2016

Bisamberg translates as “up to the hill” and is located in Vienna’s 21st district. From 35 year old vines, a traditional field blend of 40% Weissburgunder, 40% Grauburgunder, 20% Chardonnay.

Wiener Gemischter Satz Nussberg 2014

92-94 POINTS —Falstaff

The famous “nut hill” located in Vienna’s 19th district, Nußberg soars to over 300 meters above downtown Vienna. From 50-year-old vines and 9 varietals co-planted and co-fermented. Based on Weissburgunder, Neuburger, and Welschriesling



Wiener Gemischter Satz Rosengartl 2016

Rosengartl is the best section of the Nußberg and is historically considered one of the most important vineyards in Vienna. A classic yet powerful Wiener Gemischter Satz from vines planted in 1960. Based on Grüner Veltliner, Neuburger, Weissburgunder, Traminer, and Riesling.

WEINGUT PRAGER

- Founding member of the elite Vinea Wachau growers’ association
- Champion of biodiversity (clonal work) and re-establishing abandoned high terraces
- World-class wines of power, precision and clear expression of terroir

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Achleiten 2016

Achleiten is one of the Wachau’s top sites for both Grüner Veltliner and Riesling. Worked since Roman times with just 40 cm of topsoil over the granitic bedrock. Always shows a distinctive aroma of minerals and smoke.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Achleiten Stockkultur 2016

Stockkultur is a small plot near the top of Achleiten purchased by the Bodensteins in 2005. The vines were planted in 1938 and are among the oldest in the Wachau. The name refers to the old style of training each vine to a single stake. One of the very best Grüner Veltliners produced year in and year out, Stockkultur is a wine of profound depth and concentration.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Zwerithaler Kammergut 2016

Zwerithaler is a sub-site of Buschenberg and sits to the east of Weißenkirchen. The name Zwerithaler translates roughly to “nestled between the valleys,” and is a near monopole of Weingut Prager. It has a complex soil consisting of paragneiss with alternating layers of dark material and

calcareous rock. Zwerithaler Kammer is a .34-hectare parcel planted before World War I and was bottled separately by Prager for the first time in vintage 2015. Very pure, dense, and intensely mineral.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Wachstum Bodenstein 2016

Wachstum, “Growth” or “Cru,” is a nursery for Toni Bodenstein who planted 110 different clones of Grüner Veltliner in an abandoned terrace at the top of Achleiten. The goal of Wachstum Bodenstein, when planted in 1993, was to preserve biodiversity. Incidentally, it is now one of Prager’s most sought after wines. A powerful Grüner Veltliner with finely etched aromatics and an intensity of fruit and mineral on the palate.

Riesling Smaragd Achleiten 2016

Achleiten is one of Austria’s greatest vineyards and is known for producing wines with a distinctive mineral character. Achleiten sits near the town of Weißenkirchen with steep terraces that face the Danube between 200 and 400 meters of elevation. The vineyard has very little top soil with various gneiss as its parent rock. The name Achleiten comes from the Latin “Ach” (aqua) and “leiten” meaning a conduct for water. Wines from Achleiten have a signature aroma and flavor of flint, smoke, and minerals.

Riesling Smaragd Klaus 2016

Klaus sits adjacent to Achleiten and is a classic Wachau site of pure gneiss for top-quality Riesling. The parcel belonging to Toni Bodenstein was planted in 1952, from which come a wine that Toni describes as “not a charming Riesling” with a wink in his eye. Often Prager’s most powerful and assertive Riesling.

Riesling Smaragd Wachstum Bodenstein 2016

Wachstum, “Growth” or “Cru,” is a nursery for Toni Bodenstein who planted 15 different clones, planted at 460 meters elevation. The goal of Wachstum Bodenstein, when planted in 1993, was to preserve biodiversity. Incidentally, it is now one of Prager’s most sought after wines. A Riesling of great filigree and finesse thanks to very high-elevation.



Riesling Federspiel Steinriegl 2016

91 POINTS —*Falstaff*

Steinriegl is Prager's only vineyard west of Weißenkirchen and is planted to Riesling. The exceptionally steep, southwest-facing site is cool due to its proximity to the forest and its soil is a unique "kalksilikatmarmor," a limestone silicate marble rarely found elsewhere in the Wachau.

WEINGUT RUDI PICHLER

- Top Wachau estate and member of the prestigious Vinea Wachau
- Powerful wines of depth and substance
- Razor-sharp expressions of terroir

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Hochrain 2016

Hochrain—the name means "high place"—belongs to the village of Wösendorf and sits in the middle part of the Wachau valley between 200 – 300 meters of elevation. The vineyard consists of an unusually high content of loess with a layer of black earth on top. The rich mineral-laden soil is responsible for the character of its wines and produces Grüner Veltliner that is especially broad, rich, and textural.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Achleiten 2016

Rudi Pichler's Achleiten, whether Grüner Veltliner or Riesling, should be considered one of the clearest examples of this famed Wachau site. Rudi's vines are located in the small section of Achleiten that faces west with very rocky soil. Low yields, brief macerations with no oak, ML or botrytis result in very pure and mineral wines with great intensity of flavor.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Kollmütz 2016

Kollmütz is a windy site with soil that is rich in magnesium and iron. This wine is typically linear, dense and intensely mineral.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Terrassen 2016

Blended from multiple middle and high terraces. A Smaragd to drink young, or as Rudi says, "Smaragd for lunch."

Riesling Federspiel 2016

Blended from multiple sites: valley floor, middle and high terraces.

Riesling Smaragd Achleiten 2016

Rudi Pichler's Achleiten, whether Grüner Veltliner or Riesling, should be considered one of the clearest examples of this famed Wachau site. Rudi's vines are located in the small section of Achleiten that faces west with very rocky soil. Very pure and mineral with great intensity of flavor.

Riesling Smaragd Hochrain 2016

Hochrain "high place" is a unique site in the Wachau thanks to its soil which is about 1/3 loess with the remainder in primary rock. Hochrain sits above the village of Wösendorf next to Kollmütz.

Riesling Smaragd Kirchweg 2016

Kirchweg ("church path") sits just below Hochrain in Wösendorf with sandy soils giving opulent wines.

Riesling Smaragd Terrassen 2016

Blended from multiple middle and high terraces.

Weissburgunder Smaragd Kollmütz 2016

Rudi's Weissburgunder Kollmütz is among the very best of this varietal from Austria or anywhere for that matter. A serious wine of power and layered complexity with white peach, paraffin and salty minerality.

